



# PETONE CENTRAL SCHOOL Board of Trustees Newsletter

Term 2 | June | 2021

## Ngā mihi nui

Welcome to our first Board of Trustees newsletter. We are your school Board of Trustees, elected in 2020 to provide governance of the school and support for the school community.

The elected members of our Board are: Ria Rimene (co-chair), Holly Walker (co-chair), Chris Osborn, Joshua Brown, and Sarah Whaanga. Our Principal, Trina Bennett, also sits on the board, along with Jeannie Phillips (staff rep).

We meet twice a term, and our meeting times and dates are advised on our school calendar. Our meetings are open to the public.

## Introducing our Co-Chair Ria Rimene

Each term we'll profile a different board member so you can get to know us all a bit better. First up, our co-chair, Ria Rimene.

*My name is Ria. I am of Te Aupouri, Ngati Hine, Cook Island and English descent. My husband and I have lived in Wainuiomata for 15 years and we have been a part of the Petone Central whanau since 2017. I work for Stats NZ as a Local Area Leader managing a team of survey interviewers in Wellington and the Hutt Valley. My happy place is either in the kitchen (often my stress release) or enjoying time with friends and family. As tik tok is to my daughter, Matariki and much to her horror singing is to me you will always hear music coming out of our whare. I love having an active role as a parent and being a part of the board and the school community. I look forward to being able to meet other members of our school family as time goes on.*



Tawhira te Maunga

Te Awa Poka te Awa

Parengarenga te Moana

Potahi te Marae

Waimirangi te Whare

Mamari te Waka

Te Kao te Haukainga

Te Aupouri te Iwi



From now on we hope to send you one Board of Trustees newsletter each term with some information about us and highlights of our recent activities. You can contact us anytime by emailing [board@petone-central.school.nz](mailto:board@petone-central.school.nz).



## Latest ERO report for Petone Central School

The Education Review Office (ERO) was onsite late last year updating its review of our school. ERO is the external evaluation agency that evaluates and reports on the education and care of learners in schools, kura, kohanga reo, puna reo, and early childhood services. Their latest report for Petone Central School has now been completed and released publicly.

We are really pleased with their assessment of our school's progress since the last review in 2018. Here are some of the highlights from the report:

*"The principal and teachers have made significant progress in all areas identified for development."*

*"The principal and staff are proactive using a collaborative focus on working alongside families to support and promote children to 'be their best selves'."*

*"Students are enthusiastic, confident learners. They work both independently and collaboratively to carry out learning tasks."*

*"Classrooms reflect the school's emphasis on respect. Positive and productive learning environments are evident."*

*"The curriculum is responsive to students' learning, identities and wellbeing, and focusses on valued student outcomes. It promotes caring, inclusive and respectful learning partnerships."*

*"Teachers have a shared vision and responsibility for delivering high quality learning experiences."*

The ERO assessors gave the school an overall rating of 'Developing,' noting that the next steps for our school are to:

Continue to raise achievement, including accelerating the progress of Māori students;

Further develop student agency;

Develop internal evaluation;

Induct and support new trustees into their governance role.

We want to give a huge mihi and acknowledgement to Whāea Trina and the staff for their hard work over the last three years to implement the findings from the previous report, and the significant progress which is recognised in this one.

It has been a big job and a huge achievement to get to this stage.

We're excited to work together with Whāea Trina and all the teachers and support staff to implement these next steps.



You can read the [full ERO report for Petone Central School on the ERO website](#).

## *Petone Central Whānau and Friends group*

*We are starting a Parent Teacher Association at Petone Central School. **The Petone Central Whānau & Friends group** will support our amazing teaching staff and help run events and activities that can really make a big difference to our tamariki.*

*If you're interested in being a part of this group and want to know more, come along for a quick chat, a hot drink and some cake at 3pm on Thursday 17 June in the Wharekai.*

### **Our vision for Petone Central School: A vibrant local place of learning and achievement**

You might have seen the colourful new sign appear at the front entrance of the school, which includes our school vision: A vibrant local place of learning and achievement. Sitting behind this vision is the school's charter and strategic plan, which sets out how we plan to achieve this vision, with different goals relating to the curriculum, connections, culture, and environment.

Each time the Board meets, we review one of the strategic goals in the charter. For example, at our most recent meeting, we reviewed progress towards Goal 2: an actively engaged school and community.

Under this goal, our aims are to refine methods of communicating with and reporting to our community (like this newsletter!), develop a parent teacher association to support fundraising and planning for an improved school and culture, and refine our systems of identifying and supporting students with learning and social needs, making connections for support.

As they come up for review, we'll be seeking input from our school community more regularly about these goals and aims. Meanwhile, you can read the whole charter here, and if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, we'd love to hear from you! Email us on [board@petone-central.school.nz](mailto:board@petone-central.school.nz).

### **Policies for review in Term 2**

One of our jobs is to regularly review the school's policies and procedures, and from time to time we will invite you to provide your feedback on these. We use a site called School Docs to do this. This term our policy on **Reporting to Parents on Student Progress and Achievement** is under review, and we would like to invite you to review the policy and offer your feedback by following these instructions. Please upload your feedback by following these steps:

1. Visit the website <https://petonecentral.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm>
2. Enter the username (petonecentral) and password (respect).
3. Follow the link to the **Reporting to Parents on Student Progress and Achievement** policy as listed.
4. Read the policy.
5. Click the Policy Review button at the top right-hand corner of the page.
6. Select the reviewer type "Parent".
7. Enter your name (optional).
8. Submit your ratings and comments.
9. If you don't have internet access, school office staff can provide you with printed copies of the policy and a review form.

That's all for now, thanks for reading to the end!

Ngā mihi, Ria, Holly, Chris, Sarah, Joshua, Jeannie, and Trina (Petone Central School Board of Trustees)